



ל'פ"א

The shekel

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A BRONZE RAM AND A BRONZE COIN FROM 4th CENT. BCE



An artist's conception of how the ram and its ship, a bireme, might have appeared.



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NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC.



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The AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION is a cultural and educational organization dedicated to the study and collection of Israel's coinage, past and present, and all aspects of Judaica Numismatica. It is a democratically organized, membership oriented group, chartered as a non-profit association under the laws of the State of New York.

As an educational organization, the primary responsibility is the development of programs, publications, meeting and other activities which will bring news, history, technical, social and related background to the study of numismatics. Membership is open to all men and women of goodwill and to clubs who share the common goals of the Association.

The Association is the publisher of THE SHEKEL, a six times a year journal and news magazine prepared for the enlightenment and education of the membership. It neither solicits or accepts advertising, paid or unpaid. Its views are the views and opinions of the writers and the pages and columns are open to all who submit material deemed by the editors to be of interest to the members.

The Association sponsors such major cultural/social/numismatic events as an annual Study Tour of Israel, national and regional conventions and such other activities and enterprises which will benefit the members. Dues are paid annually at \$10.00 per year; life memberships are offered to all at \$150.00 per year. Junior membership (under 18) \$2.50 per year. Your interest and participation will be welcomed by any of the affiliated clubs or as a general member of the Association.

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George Gilbert, *Editor*

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Morris Bram



Dear Friends,

There are two major obligations of the president of an organization such as our own. The first is to be responsive to the wishes of the membership. That is why the mail, the phone calls, my personal visits to clubs and the many contacts made at our Conventions have been so important.

The second obligation is to set direction for the organization. After so many years, all membership in leadership positions in the clubs or on AINA committees are aware of the thrust of our direction: an educated membership, strong clubs, a reach-out of hands towards help to Israel through the fraternity of collecting interests and creation of a self-sufficient and self-sustaining organization.

The continued life of our clubs and the vitality of our publications, nationally like *The Shekel* and the *Club Bulletin* and locally like the enthusiastic newsletters of some of our individual INS clubs attest to the organization's strength.

There is no question that I have been fortunate in that I have enjoyed the help and encouragement of the executives as well as the general membership for the last 16 years. A close relationship has endured with the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation and the Bank of Israel in Jerusalem.

We have the further support of the American and Israeli numismatic press and the influence the press has had with the general numismatic public has helped immeasurably in building our stature with the total numismatic community. Proof? The overwhelming support we get for our conventions in New York and Florida. Is there any doubt that the goodwill we have built insures additional conventions in the years ahead on a regular basis in the Far West and Midwest?

A president is only one man and he is only as good as his Board of Directors and the committees. My executives have stood forcefully behind me and have helped me over rough spots for the last 16 years. How I wish that all could have been with me to share one of the highlights of the recent Study Tour to Israel: The moment when I met the incredible anti-Nazi fighter, Mr. Simon Wiesenthal and how proud I was to tell him of AINA's contribution to the history of the Holocaust in the recently published special *Shekels*. In this small world of ours, he had already known of me and of AINA.

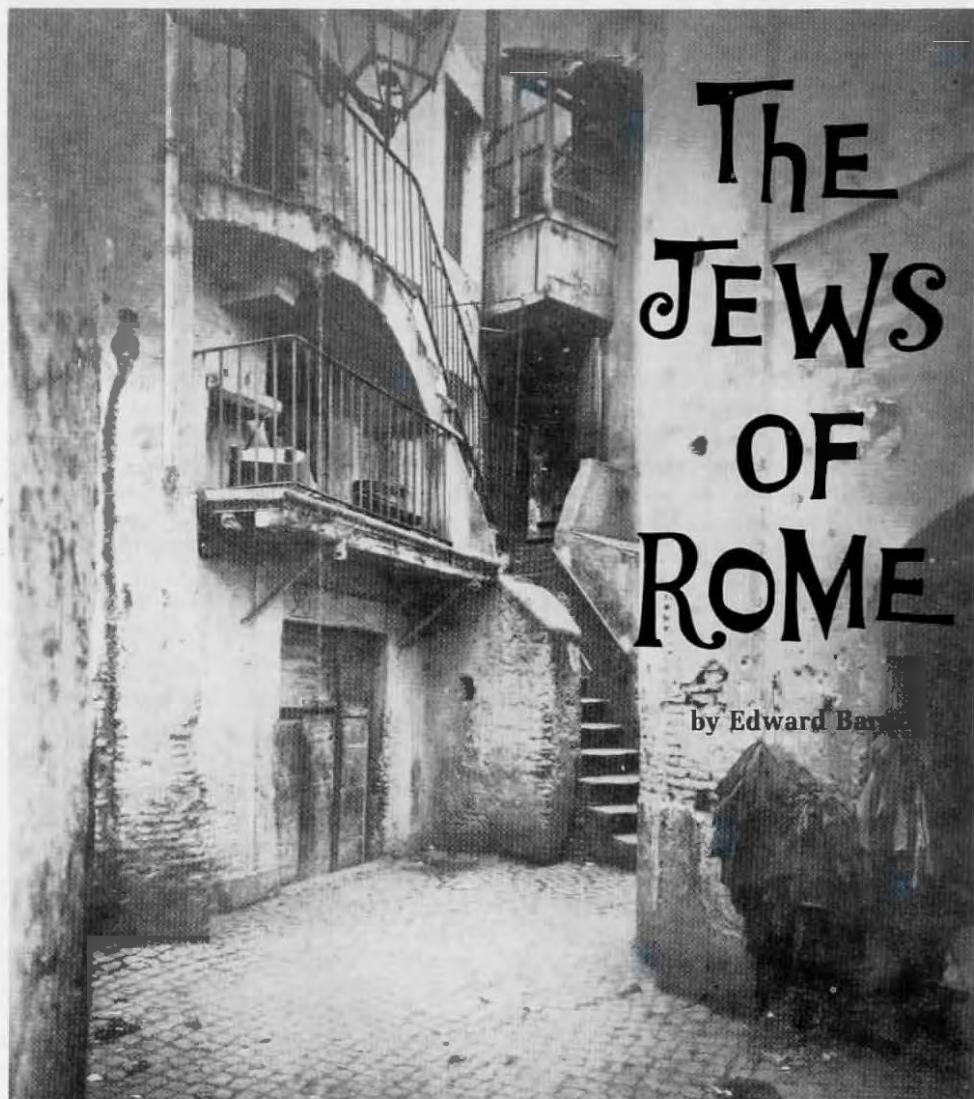
How exciting it is to be a part of the great AINA organization as we move deeper into 1983 and look to activities ahead.

SHALOM,

Morris

A NUMISMATIC HISTORY

ENTRANCE TO THE OLD JEWISH QUARTER



Jewish families were already living in Rome 200 years before Jewish captives of Titus were brought to Rome as captives of the Jewish Revolt of 71 C.E.

The year: 71 C.E. The solid gold seven-branched Candelabrum, once the pride of the Temple in Jerusalem, was being displayed in the streets of Rome to a jubilant populace. It was a grandiose spectacle, seldom seen even by Roman standards. Jerusalem 1500 miles away lay in ruins; hundreds of thousands of its inhabitants had been slain. Josephus Flavius, a traitorous Jewish general, some said, contributed to the debacle.

As a witness to the tragedy, Josephus wrote his now famous account of *The War of the Jews*. A few short sentences in this book mention in passing a man named Jesus, whose followers considered him the Messiah.

This fleeting passage saved the book from ensuing generations of book burnings ordered by successive Popes; three hundred years of Jewish history were thus preserved for posterity.

So Judaea was finally brought to its knees by the mighty Roman legions. The Jews of first century Rome, their dreams of their Holy City destroyed, were now joined by thousands of their brethren, who with bowed heads and in chains were paraded down the Appian way while Emperor Vespasian and his son Titus, together with Rome's elite, acknowledged a roaring homage from the crowds.

From that moment on, the fate of the Jews of Rome depended entirely on the good graces of their rulers, first the Caesars and then the Popes who later ruled the city with absolute authority. The Jewish community of Rome survived them all to become the most ancient in Europe.

Their place in Rome began in 139 B.C.E.; Simon Maccabeus sent emissaries to cement an alliance of friendship with the Romans. With this alliance, the first Jewish migration to Rome took place. The first arrivals were groups of merchants. Years later they were joined by new

emigres: The prisoners taken by Pompey in 60 B.C.E. and by Vespasian and Titus in 70 C.E. This nucleus of the earliest Roman Jewish community settled in the Trastevere section, across the river Tiber. This land area was available only because recurrent floods inflicted untold suffering on those in these lowlands.

Rome is the scene of the magnificent ruins of the Colosseum built by countless Jewish slaves. First it was an amphitheatre for circuses; later (in the Middle Ages) Passion Plays were performed there for many years, inflaming anti-Jewish feelings in the spectators. These Plays were finally stopped by Paul III (1468-1549) a benevolent Pope towards the Jews.

On the other side of the Colosseum, and within 300 feet of the Arch of Constantine, stands a somewhat smaller but nevertheless mighty looking monument. It was named after the emperor who thought his victory would end a Jewish Jerusalem: Titus. It is known as the Arch of Titus. An inscription on the inside reads: *The Senate and People of Rome to the Divine Titus, son of the Divine Vespasian*. There is a high relief of Titus on a chariot led by a goddess. The other side of the arch portrays Jewish captives carrying on their shoulders the seven-branched Candelabrum amongst the Temple relics.



Judaea Capta: Reverse of a 70 C.E. coin issued by Vespasian to commemorate capture of Jerusalem.



Roman soldiers and captives carrying the loot from the Temple in Jerusalem: A detail from the Arch of Titus.

As durable as this arch are the period's coins commemorating this victory minted and inscribed: *IVVDAEA DEVICTA, IVVDAEA CAPTA* (*Judaea Conquered, Judaea Captured.*)

Roman Jews lived by their wits to survive. During Caesar's reign a prominent rabbi, Tanhum ben Hanilai, had an audience with the emperor. "Roman animosity towards the Jews", mentioned Caesar "would completely disappear if the Jews would unite with us in the same religion". Rabbi ben Hanilai thought it a great plan, but he suggested that "... since Jews have already gone through the exercise of circumcision, would it not make matters much easier for the pagans to join our ranks?"

During the period of the Empire, the Jews of Rome enjoyed some protection, civil as well as religious. There were numerous Jewish centers or communities, each with its synagogue and cemetery. Four of these subterranean cemeteries, called Jewish Catacombs, have been discovered, one each on the *Via Appia*, the *Via Labicana*, the *Via Nomentana*, and on the *Via Portuense*. The latter

is the most ancient Jewish cemetery in Rome; it holds the mortal remains of the large Jewish colony which once settled in Trastevere.

The Middle Ages

During the first years of the Middle Ages and from the Tenth to the Fourteenth century, a period characterized by the struggle between the Papacy and the Empire, the Jews of Rome enjoyed comparative peace and a certain semblance of tolerance. With this tolerance came certain limitations of their religious freedom: They were not allowed to build new synagogues. A newly built one was demolished during the reign of Pope Honorius III (1216-1277). Religious books were burnt under Gregory IX (1227-1241), and under John XXI (1316-1334), Jews were subjected to money levies, a practice tantamount to extortion.

In 1543 the Order of Jesuits in Rome was empowered to establish two homes for the purpose of converting Jews to Christianity. In 1554, Pope Julius III ruled that these homes were to be subsidized by the

synagogues. A year earlier, all Jewish books were seized and burnt.

The Talmud was considered offensive to Christian thought; it also went up in smoke. Later Popes completely prohibited the printing of "heretic" books, including the *Kabala*. This form of persecution under Papal blessings characterized the period. For instance, in 1601, Pope Clement III again ordered that all Jewish books be burned in the middle of Saint Peter's Square. With the exception of a few years following the French revolution and into the Napoleonic era, this was the state of affairs.

In 1848, the gates of the Ghetto were at last torn down. During the short period of the Roman Republic, proclaimed in Rome in 1849 by the patriots Mazzini and Garibaldi, the Jews of Italy obtained parity of rights as full citizens. With the return of the Pope, some restrictions were again imposed, and a number of Jews were once more concentrated in the Ghetto. There they remained until September 20th, 1870, when the Italian troops entered Rome. Many houses in the Ghetto were pulled down and Jews were free to live in different parts of the city.

In 1904 the present main synagogue was built on the ruins of the ancient Ghetto. The synagogue, in design reminiscent of the Assyro-Babylonian style architecture, has an aluminum dome which today may

be seen in all panoramic views of the city.

Modern Times

A monumental legacy of the Italian Jews does honor to their adopted country. Tullio Levi Civita was one of the nineteenth century's greatest mathematicians and theoretical physicists; his absolute differential calculus was of invaluable help to Einstein in his development of the theory of relativity. Enrico Fermi, winner of the Nobel Prize in 1938, was a leader in nuclear research and the foremost Italian physicist. Amadeo Modigliani was one of the most creative of all Italian modernist painters. Luigi Luzzatti was the outstanding statesman and economist who founded the *Banco Popolare* in Milan. Among other feats, he became Prime Minister from 1909 to 1911. Ernesto Nathan, one of the most popular and respected Mayors of Rome, served from 1907 through 1913. These are just a few names of the legion of Italian Jews who enriched the lives of their countrymen.

It was a long journey for the Roman Jews, from captivity to serfdom and on to complete freedom. The symbolism of their destiny is beautifully depicted in a 59mm medal issued by the Shekel Mint in Tel-Aviv in 1968, the year of Jerusalem's reunification.

(cont. on page 18)



A B'nai Brith of Israel medal depicts the Return to Jerusalem —
Collection of the Author.



General Chairman Jack Garfield and AINA President Morris Bram.

GREATER FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL COIN COLLECTION IN HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA A SMASH SUCCESS, SAYS GARFIELD

Hollywood, Florida—A sold-out bourse and well-attended activities at the Greater Florida International Coin Convention made the Fifth Annual January event in South Florida an overwhelming success, reported Jack Garfield, General Chairman at the Diplomat Resort and Country Club. The GFICC was held from January 13 through the 16th.

With over 150 dealers, a broadly diversified array of competitive and non-competitive exhibits, an auction conducted by Numismatic Investments of Florida, sterling speakers at the Educational Forum, a simultaneous convention of the American Israel Numismatic Association and an elegant banquet evening, the first 1983 numismatic event in Florida on this scale broke all records for previous shows in January here.

A surprise of the event was the award to the controller of the Diplomat Resort, Roger deWardt Lane, of the Best-of-Show Award with a six-case exhibit, "Kings, Queens and Statesmen." Earlier in the day, the enthusiastic Mr. Lane was one of the three speakers at the Educational Forum, where he reported to a keenly interested audience on his start in collecting of dime-sized silver coins of countries other than the United States at the suggestion of a Lane daughter, then a youngster. The Lane collection tracks such coinage of the 19th and 20th centuries through countries of the seven continents.

Among events was a Board of Directors meeting of the American Israel Numismatic Association whose president, Morris Bram of Tamarac,

Florida reported to the evening banquet that his organization would recommend the Diplomat Hotel for future Florida coin events.

Jack Garfield of Miami Beach assembled a team of seasoned convention aides to assist in arranging for conduct of the event with well-known numismatists from the Greater New York area ready and willing to start brief winter vacations in the Florida resort city following their labors on the bourse floor, in meeting halls and at a variety of registration desks.

Milton Beresh and his wife, Connie Beresh, both of North Miami Beach, Florida arranged for the exhibition of nearly 50 cases of coins and medals organized by 19 numismatist exhibitors.

Stanley Yulish, a Cleveland collector and Executive Vice President of the American Israel Numismatic Association was moderator of the Educational Forum conducted at noon on Saturday, January 15. Lead-off speaker was Miamian Herbert Kwart, a numismatic writer and au-

thor of a system for the grading of paper money. Mr. Kwart presented the technical considerations of a portion of his system.

Morty Zerder, a science teacher and active numismatist-historian from Syosset, New York presented a slide show on *Patterns and Trial Pieces* of the first coins of modern Israel. Roger deWardt Lane of Hollywood, Florida presented a tour of the world in silver coins.

Sidney L. Olson, Master of Ceremonies at the banquet and a Miami Beach resident introduced a number of speakers for brief presentations following the dinner. Lead-off speaker Morris Bram of AINA congratulated the dealers and collectors present for their efforts which made the convention a vast contribution to numismatic growth. Bram reported that his organization would continue to encourage interest in all areas of numismatics while seeking growth of interest in the specific areas of interest to Israeli and Judaica collectors. Olson introduced the General Chairman Jack Garfield who thanked the



Board of Directors meeting — Jan. 1983.



Educational Forum was chaired by Stanley Yulish (left) and heard speakers Roger deWardt Lane, Herbert Kwart and Morty Zerder.

team which had assembled the resources which assured convention success.

Keynote speaker for the evening was a prominent numismatic journalist and *Coin World* Features Editor Jay Guren of Sidney, Ohio who predicted continued growth of gold and silver bullion prices, lowered bank interest and a renaissance of interest in coin collecting.

Major interest centered on the report of Exhibits Chairman Milton Beresh who announced winners in the following categories:

FIRST PRIZES

United States: "Currency Classics" by Emil Voigt.

State of Israel: "Nine City Coin Medals" by Jack Garfield, Miami Beach.

Numismatic Judaica: "Judaic Medals" by Harry Flower, Chicago.

Miscellaneous: "Kings, Queens and Statesmen" by Roger deWardt Lane, Hollywood, Florida.

BEST OF SHOW

Roger deWardt Lane with "Kings, Queens and Statesmen."

Other exhibitors included Morty Zerder, Morris Bram, Dr. Maxwell Greenhouse, Rose Kantor, F. M. Rose, Nathan Sobel, George Gilbert, Julius Garfield, Bill Kociaba, Scott Travers, Val Matelis, Julius Turoff, Amadee Renuart, Bill Skor and Milton Beresh.

All exhibitors were awarded electronic desk clocks with major prize-winners receiving larger clocks.

Jack Garfield reported that the arrangements were organized by a small army of volunteers and committees, including:

REGISTRATION

Shirley Kaplan
Frances Baum
Florence Turoff
Ada Weinschel
Dorothy Kociaba

EXHIBITS

Connie Beresh
Milton Beresh

AWARDS

Nat Sobel
Julius Turoff
Moe Weinschel
Steven Weiner

SECURITY

Moe Weinschel
Jack Garfield

PHOTOGRAPHY

George Gilbert

PROPERTY

Alan Kaplan
Gene Hynds

CASES & KEYS

Julius Garfield

POSTAGE EXHIBIT &

AINA BOOTH

Rose Kantor
Julius Kantor

SIGNS

Julius Turoff

BOURSE

Neil Garfield

MESSAGE CENTER

Dr. Maxwell Greenhouse
Betsy Greenhouse

RECEPTION & BANQUET

Dorothy Kociaba
William Kociaba

Among numismatic celebrities at the Convention were Adna Wilde, president of the American Numismatic Association, Colorado Springs, Colorado; John J. Pittman, and Harry X. Boosel, Board of Governors of the ANA.

Attendance was heightened by cool, clear January Florida weather with convention guests arriving from New York, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Colorado, California, Texas and Virginia.

Dealers reported brisk sales, many new novice collectors and visitors seeking specialty items for advanced collections in both paper money and gold. ☆



Morris Bram (l.) cuts ribbon at opening. Jack Garfield and Moe Weinschel (at right) admit first visitors.



Mildred Abramowitz, M. Bram and A. Wilde, president of the American Numismatic Assn.



A. Nachmany; Mr. & Mrs. Nahum Hacohen and Nat Sobel.



ISRAEL ISSUES 1983 OFFICIAL MINTSET (double thickness) - PIEFORT Strictly Limited to 25,000 Sets

For Israel's 35th Anniversary, the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation has offered a mintset including all coins circulating in 1983. With their unique characteristics, these coins are of special numismatic and collector interest.

Continuing the tradition initiated in 1981, the coins are minted on blanks heavier than usual and of double thickness. Production control is extremely rigid and the quality and finish of the coins are outstanding. Each coin is mintmarked with a tiny Star of David and bears the mint date, 1983.

The set contains the 7 coins currently in circulation, including the new 10 Sheqalim coin depicting an oar-driven ship from the time of Herod Archelaus (4 B.C.E. - 6 C.E.) with galley, 5 oars, rudder, battering ram and cabin.

On the side of the nominal value of the 5 and 10 Sheqel coins, appear 2 stars copied from the coins of Alexander Yannai (103 - 76 B.C.E.) and the word "Sheqalim" in Latin characters as well as in Hebrew, for the convenience of tourists in Israel and collectors abroad.

(cont. on page 31)

DETAILS OF THE COINS

Coin	Diameter mm.	Weight Gr.	Thickness mm	Edge	Metal
1 New Agora	15	4.2	2.9	smooth	coppernickel
5 New Agorot	18.5	6.3	2.9	milled	coppernickel
10 New Agorot	16	4.6	2.9	milled	bronze (red)
1/2 Sheqel	20	6.8	2.75	milled	coppernickel
1 Sheqel	23	11.1	3.5	smooth-milled	coppernickel
5 Sheqalim	24	13	3.8	milled	bronze (yellow)
10 Sheqalim	25	16.5	3.9	smooth	coppernickel

Legal tender issued by the Bank of Israel.

INDEPENDENCE DAY COIN — 1983

“VALOR COIN” ANNOUNCED



Israel celebrates its 35th independence with the issue of a commemorative coin. It honors The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and thus named—The “Valor Coin.”

The IDF was officially created about two weeks after the Proclamation of Independence of the State of Israel. At the time of its creation, the

IDF, like the State of Israel, already had an infrastructure which had developed over the years, since the end of the previous century. The IDF is this year celebrating 35 years of existence.

The Israel Army's activities encompass 4 principal spheres:

(cont. on page 31)

DESCRIPTION OF THE COIN

Obverse:	The IDF emblem against a sculptural Star of David. The word “Zahal” in Hebrew.
Reverse:	The emblem of the State of Israel; the word “Israel” in Hebrew, English and Arabic; the mint date - 1983. Nominal value: gold coin - 10 Sheqalim; Silver proof coin - 2 Sheqalim; Silver B.U. coin - 1 Sheqel.
Edges:	Silver Proof and B.U. coins - 35 Years of the State of Israel (in ancient Hebrew letters); Gold coin - milled.
Design:	Obverse - Yaacov Zim; Reverse - Gideon Keich.
Gypsum Models:	Obverse - Victor Huster; Reverse - Tidhar Dagan.
Minting:	Gold coin - The Federal Mint, Switzerland Silver coins - The Mint of Stuttgart

DETAILS OF THE COINS

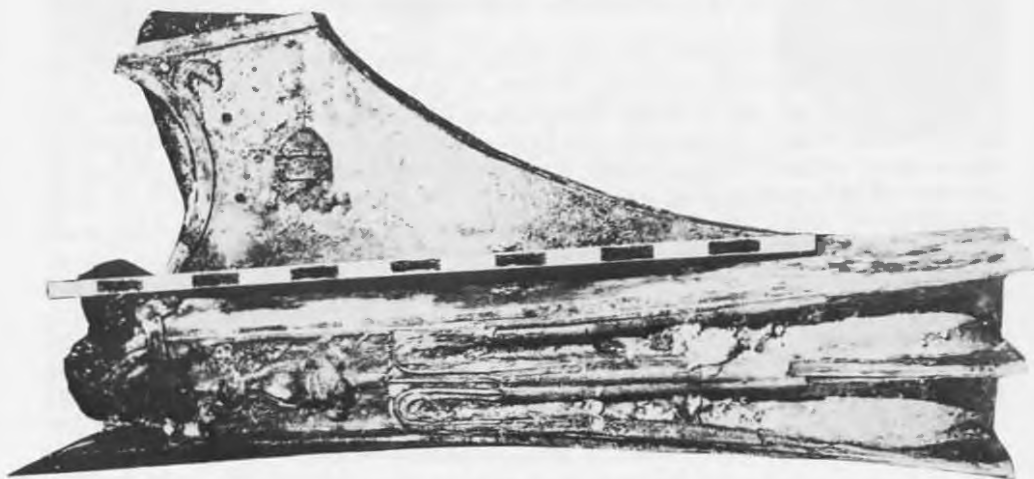
Nominal Value	Metal	Diameter mm.	Weight	Maximum Quantity
10 Sheqalim	Gold/900	30mm	17.28 gr.	5,000
2 Sheqalim	Silver/850	37mm	28.8 gr.	10,000
1 Sheqel	Silver/850	30mm	14.4 gr.	16,000

Legal tender issued by the Bank of Israel.

A Bronze Ram from the Sea of Athlit, Israel

by ELISHA LINDER and YEHOShUA RAMON

Center for Maritime Studies, University of Haifa;
Reprinted from newsletter of the American Friends of the Haifa Maritime Museum.



The complete ram of the warship of the 4th century BCE found off the coast of Athlit, Israel. The front of the ram is to the right. It is a major archaeological discovery being the only known example from this period. The remains of the ship itself have not been found.

IN NOVEMBER 1980, marine archaeologist Yehoshua Ramon, routinely surveying in the Sea of Athlit off the coast of northern Israel, was intrigued by a tiny piece of bronze protruding from the sand floor. Little did he know that he had chanced upon a remarkable discovery a bronze battering ram – the remarkable tactical innovation that changed the course of naval warfare. Apparently this is the first intact battering ram ever to be found, in spite of the fact that these rams were used for centuries by the Greeks, Phoenicians, Romans, and other rival Mediterranean powers. A Punic wreck dating to the third century BCE recently found off the coast of Marsala in Sicily, provides a tentative clue. Here, underwater archaeologists unearthed a prow complete with the wooden tusk-like framework. Only the projecting central timber, which did the actual ramming, was missing.

The ram is constructed of a bronze casing covering a wooden structure. Each side forms the shape of three dagger blades. The gaps between these blades are wider and deeper toward the front edge, where the ram forms its three horizon-

tal protrusions. Measuring 2.26 meters in overall length and 83 centimeters at its widest point, its ramming surface covered a space of 40 to 44 centimeters. The average thickness of the bronze casing is two centimeters. The entire ram, including the wooden structure, weighs an astonishing 600 kilos — about 1,300 pounds!

The wooden structure consists of two large timbers which fit into the inside of the casing. One timber is in a horizontal position while the other is attached to the former at a 70 degree angle. Two additional timbers are attached within the casing on both sides of the horizontal timber. Long copper nails once held the wood and metal together; traces of their heads are clearly detectable at several points along the bronze surface.

This beautifully crafted ram also offers unusual relief decorations. On each side appears a trident — symbolizing authority, sea storms and maritime dominion — composed of three elongated dagger blades stemming from a decorated hilt, and a helmet encircled with a wreath of leaves, attached and surmounted by a seven-spoked star, representing the Dioscuri (Castor and Pollux), the "heavenly twins" or sons of Zeus recognized as special patrons of sailors. In the upper rear corners on each side is an ornate eagle's head. A relief of a caduceus or "herald's staff," representing commerce, industry and speed, appears on the upper battering surface of the ram.

Early clues from the ram

The first appearance of the ram as an integral part of the ancient fighting ship, and its use as a destructive weapon remains a controversial issue among maritime historians. The debate is based largely on the various interpretations of artistic designs on prows. Are rams actually depicted? Were they used as weapons, a theory based on descriptions of ramming enemy ships?

Maritime historians generally cite the first direct reference to the battering ram as made by Herodotus, who describes the 535 BCE naval engagement in the straits of Sardinia between the Phocaeans from the Ionian city of Phocaea in Asia Minor, and the combined forces of the Carthaginians and Tyrrhenians. "... In the engagement ... the Phocaeans were victorious but they lost forty ships in the battle, and the twenty which remained came out of the engagement with beaks so bent and blunted as to be no longer serviceable." (Book I, 166). Indirect references, however, date the use of the ram much earlier, for example, the naval battle fought between the Corcyraeans from the island of Corcyra (modern Corfu) and the Corinthians from the northern Peloponnese told by Thucydides (Book I, 13). The reinterpretation of several Late Bronze Age records (fourteenth to thirteenth centuries BCE), such as the El-Amarna correspondence relating to naval operations between the pharaohs Amenophis III and his successor, Akhenaton, and their vessels in Syria and Palestine, as well as several maritime texts from Ugarit in northern Syria, supports an early date for naval encounters



Silver denarius, 20mm of the Roman Republic, 119-91 BC. Note three pointed ram at lower left.



Silver denarius, 17mm of the Roman Republic, 44-28 BC. Note ram at lower right.

of fighting ships which probably used a single pointed ram. An early type was probably pictured on Greek vases dating to 850-700 BCE.

A rare discovery

Cast in bronze, the ram from the Sea of Athlit is a fine example of the weapon in its advanced stages of development. Although it is a rare and unique find its familiar three pronged shape is already known from classical sources and renderings on coins, murals, vases, ship models, stone reliefs, and mosaics.

Three pronged rams are also relatively common on Hellenistic coins. In fact, all of the iconographic symbols decorating the Athlit ram are also represented on these coins. The trident, the Dioscuri helmet with its seven-pointed star, the eagle, and the caduceus are all well-known Hellenistic symbols related to seafaring and the protection of the sailor.

Who then made the Athlit battering ram? Since no part of the ship carrying the ram has been found, archaeologists must rely on iconographic evidence and laboratory tests on the metal and wood to determine a date for the manufacture. As the earliest possible date, the evidence suggests that the ram was made in the middle or the end of the fourth century BCE, based on artistic representations of the early Hellenistic period. The latest possible date for the manufacture of rams similar to the Athlit ram is set at the time of Augustus (reigned 27 BCE, — 14 CE) when a new era in naval tactics and fighting ship construction occurred. The Athlit ram fits in well with the early peak in the development of the three-pronged ram type. More objective support is provided by carbon-14 analysis of the wood by the Weizmann Institute Laboratory. The results indicate a date of 400 ± 150 BCE yielding a corrected date of around the middle or end of the fourth century BCE.

It is even more difficult to determine the ram's origin. Laboratories at Tel Aviv University have identified the timbers covering the bronze casing as silver fir, a tree found mainly in southern Europe. All the timbers tested are of the same wood, which has been described in classical records as ideal for long ships because it is light, sturdy and water resistant. Even the historical events which led to a possible naval encounter along the northern coast of Israel are still obscure, although an event is mentioned by Polyanus (Book III, 38) describing the Persian campaign against Egypt in 374 BCE, which included a contingent of Greek mercenaries and "trieres." Yet only when archaeologists discover the ship's date and origin will they be able to clarify the historical events surrounding the bronze ram of Athlit — a lucky chance find that has opened up a new chapter for the study of ancient maritime history.

(Elisha Linder is Chairman of the Center for Maritime Studies and of the Department of History of Maritime Civilizations at Haifa University. The late Yehoshua Ramon graduated from the Israeli Institute of Technology and also completed a degree in maritime archaeology at Haifa University.)



Bronze, 26mm of Aradus, 174/3 BC.

Ram is sole symbol on coin



Bronze, 26mm of Sidon, 82/3 BC.

Note ram at center left.

Another Unknown Charity Scrip — Paris, 1915

By Shmuel Matalon, Tel-Aviv

In *The Shekel* (Jan.-Feb., 1977) Franz Frankl wrote an interesting article about an unknown charity scrip from Paris, 1917, issued by the Rothschild family, valid for one free meal. At the end of this article, Frankl asks: Are there others? The answer, after further research, is: Yes.

There is at least one more WW I charity scrip from Paris of the Rothschild family, distributed two years earlier in 1915. The two tokens are not of the same series as is evident from the bottom of the tokens. Both were printed by Chaix. The 1915 token says: Imp (print) Chaix 28767, 10-14 (Oct. 1914); the 1917 token has it: Chaix 27-1-17.

the 1917 scrip. Another difference is in the colour. The 1917 is grey; the 1915 is violet. The text of the two tokens is identical, and so is the form, with letters slightly thinner in the 1915 one.

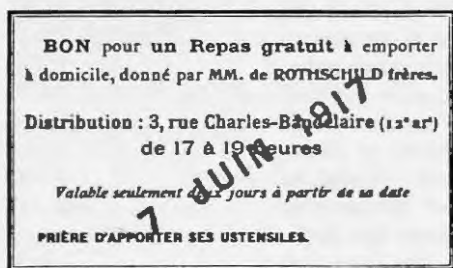
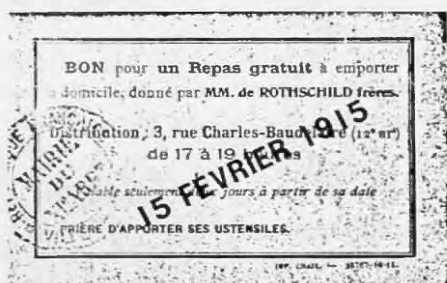
The text is:

*Good for one meal gratis
to be taken home
Donated by Messrs De Rothschild
Brothers
Distribution: 3, rue Charles Baudelaire (12th Distr)
From 17-19 hours
Valid only two days after date
Please bring your utensils*

Both tokens were printed about four months before they were distributed, and there is a span of one year and three months between the printing of the two. We do not know whether the 1915 token is the first of these series, or whether the 1917 is the last of the series, but we may presume that this specific charity operation of the Rothschild family covered at least most of the WW I period.

Rothschild charity in 1870

There is also the possibility that these tokens were not necessarily connected only with WW I period. In support of such a theory, we may find that the beneficent contribution of the Rothschild family was not a limited one. As far back as 112 years ago, in the year 1870, when Paris was besieged by the Germans, the Rothschild family issued tokens for clothing, shoes, etc. One such token is in the *Bibliothèque Nationale de Paris*.



The dates for which the tokens were distributed are 15th Feb. 1915 and 7th June 1917. The 1915 token has a cachet of the "French République-Mairie de XI Arro" (Mayorality of the XIth district) which is not on

CASSIER

BOUCHERIE CASCHER

La Famille *Le Cœur* *Le* *A. J. J. J. J.* n. 25

compère de maître ent inscrit pour *les j. j. j.* du monde à
prendre trois fois par semaine chez l'un des bouchers suivants :

Boucheries Israélites, rue de Valenciennes, 11.
Bouche rue de Valenciennes, 11.
Boucheries, rue de Valenciennes, 11.
Boucheries rue de Valenciennes, 11.
Boucheries rue de Valenciennes, 11.
Boucheries rue de Valenciennes, 11.
Boucheries rue de Valenciennes, 11.

MOIS D'OCTOBRE										
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
MOIS DE NOVEMBRE										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

17

Bank of Israel Eyeing Silver Trade Coins

Silver trade coins in relative high denominations are now under study by the Bank of Israel, Jerusalem, according to Aryeh Greenfield, editor of *Israel Business*, published in Haifa monthly and first reported in the U.S. in *Coin World*.

Greenfield indicated that according to reports, "The first such piece probably will be a 500-sheqalim coin, now the equivalent of \$14 in United States funds, to be placed in circulation at an as yet undecided, but not too distant date.

Greenfield suggests that "Precious metal trade coins are making a comeback in several countries, also in an effort to make minting operations more profitable. The production of most trade coins costs more than their face value.

"In this case, however, the high denomination and a silver content approximately .350 fine are likely to yield the central bank a significant profit. Experts also think the market for commemoratives is quite limited, while trade coins could enjoy much broader popularity," Greenfield observed.

He added, "Authorities here are presently thinking of a series of such coins, to be issued at annual intervals. Limited quantities, announced in advance, would be minted each year under the plan."

For Collectors Abroad

Greenfield indicated that distribution is expected through the banking system, as other trade coins and bank notes. He said, "No effort will be made to sell these mintings to numismatists within the country. Abroad, however, they probably will be available to collectors and coins dealers through Israel Government Coins and Medals Corp. sources."

AINA has always offered the trade coin sets issued by the IGCAM to numismatists.

Observers in Jerusalem were of the belief that while the coins would be legal tender, their use would very limited. Under the present inflationary conditions, the precious metal content value would soon exceed the face value, assuring the coins in numismatic cabinets rather than in circulation.

ROTHSCHILD MINTAGE FIGURES RELEASED

Bank of Israel officials recently released mintage figures for the .900 fine gold piece honoring Baron Edmond de Rothschild at 4,930; 2-sheqalim silver Proof coins, 9,555; and Uncirculated, 13,335. Sales ceased on June 18, 1982.

The Bank of Israel maintains a small reserve of these gold and silver pieces; the dies have been destroyed.

Jews of Rome (cont. from page 6)

The obverse shows Jews as free men, on their shoulders carrying the golden Candelabrum back to Jerusalem, while others rejoice with the dancing of the *Hora*. A winged angel is blowing a trumpet. The reverse features a panoramic view of Jerusalem, celebrating the symbolic return of the Temple's Candelabrum after two millennia in exile.

The medal, unique in its message, was commissioned by B'nai B'rith of Israel, Scroll of Fire Lodge, in honor of the Martyr's Forest, Judean Hill. This inscription is found on the left and right sides of the obverse, in English and Hebrew. It is indeed a fitting tribute to the long saga of the Jews of Rome: From *Judaea Capta* to *Judaea Liberata*. ☆

The Two Types of the Israel 5 Sheqalim Coin of 5742 (1982)

by Samuel Lachman, Haifa

The initial issue of the 5 Sheqalim coin of 5742 (1982) which was issued on 10 September 1981, was minted in France (*The Shekel*, Vol. XIV, No. 5, Sep/Oct 1981). In the course of the year another minting turned up, which was most likely struck at Jerusalem. The following differences of the two mintings have been determined:

	Type I France.	Type II Probably Jerusalem.
Mint		
Letters		
	bold	thinner
Obverse: The letter Resh in Yisrael in Hebrew.		
	The horizontal line is long	The horizontal line is short
Reverse: The letter Yod in Sheqalim in Hebrew.		
Edge reeding.		
	Thick and short ridges and grooves are of equal width.	Thinner and longer. The ridges are broader than the grooves.

There are of course further small differences, but those noted are the easiest to observe.

A MEDALLION OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY

by Robert Ross, Sergeant Major, USAR-Ret.,
River Edge, New Jersey

On a recent trip to Canada, we stayed overnite at the Charlottown Hotel on Prince Edward Isle. During a conversation with the desk clerk I gave her two modern United States silver (?) dollars. While these are not very popular here, they do make very interesting souvenirs abroad. The clerk, an avid coin collector, was most grateful; she insisted on rushing home to get a "thank-you" gift for me. She returned shortly with two identical medallions in exchange for the dollars.

I had mentioned the fact that I was primarily interested in Coins and Stamps of Israel; these medallions were most appropriate. They are illustrated slightly larger than actual size. Struck from an alloy of nickel and silver, the finish is rather dull with a strange sort of rose gray color.

After some research, I was able to locate Mr. Peter Brull, Secretary of the Canadian Association for Israel Philately in Willowdale, Ontario. He

was kind enough to supply some pertinent information. The Society was founded in 1948. The medallion was struck by and for Chapter 76 of the *Society of Israel Philatelist* as a 1973 fund-raiser, though it was unsuccessful in this respect. Of the original one thousand minted, five hundred were either sold or cut up to make pendants. The balance were shipped to the Society and the dies were destroyed.

The medallion was designed by Mr. M. Madeska, Vice-President of the Society based on the logos of the *Royal Philatelic Society of Canada* (which shows the Canadian beaver and the initials RPSC) and the running stag used on Israeli Stamps and by the *Society of Israel Philatelists*.

The medallion has a smooth edge, measures .021 inches thick at the edge and is 35mm in diameter. Of the 500 distributed, only two have surfaced at an auction, I have never seen any others.



Medal shown slightly enlarged.

MILTON FISHGOLD

On the Sabbath, the day of rest, Feb. 12, 1983, Milton Fishgold came to his final rest. 72 years passed since his birth in New York City on one wintry day in January 1911. In his infancy, his parents moved to Sioux City, Iowa, where he received his secondary education. Milton married his sweetheart Rhoda almost 50 years ago. Following his marriage, he moved west to South Dakota where he managed several chain stores.

In 1954, Milt moved to Southern California and to work for the May Co., from which he retired a few years back. This gave him time to enjoy his hobby: Coin collecting.

His membership affiliations were ICCLA — Past President and Treasurer; INS — San Fernando — Direc-

tor; INS — San Gabriel Valley — Vice President; INSLA, Convention of International Numismatics — Past President; Society of International Numismatics — Past President; NASC — Recording Secretary; N. Hollywood Coin Club; and the Masons.

Milt left his wife of almost 50 years, his son Bernard, and three grandchildren.

Those of us who were privileged to know Milt and share his love of coin collecting will never forget this gentle giant. His primary love was Israel and her coins. There was no job Milt ever turned down. On the contrary, he was in the forefront volunteering; every task he undertook, he executed with love and compassion.

MICHAEL GRANIS

Michael Granis, a member of the AINA Founding Board of Directors died at 69 in mid-January.

Mr. Granis was also a founding member and first president of the Long Island Coin Club.

He served as chairman of registration perennially at the Grand Central Coin Conventions sponsored for the

last 19 years by the Long Island Coin Club. He served on the convention committee for the 1967 American Numismatic Association convention in New York.

He was an active participant in the team effort of the annual Greater New York Coin Conventions held simultaneously with conventions of AINA.

Collectors! Beware of the stranger at the door!

By Harold Gluck, Ph.D.
Bronx, N.Y.

There are certain activities that cannot be kept a secret. One of them is collecting coins.

Everyone in your neighborhood knows you are a coin collector. You may have even lectured to a history class in the local school on your Israel coinage and you probably belong to a coin club in your community.

My dear friend, Frank Pucilla, heads a security organization in which he has trained the men under him. What is very important is this bit of advice he has for coin collectors

"If you want to beat the criminal who is trying to turn you into his victim, it is most important you see things in a different light. You have to see that there is something like a state of war between the decent, honest people and the criminal. The criminal wants to obtain your coins without paying for them."

Sounds simple, doesn't it?

Once the criminal can gain access to your home, the rest is relatively

easy for him. The threat of force upon yourself or your loved one will certainly cause you to give him the coins. But he must get inside your house. That is the key to the entire situation. You have to know what to do to keep him outside.

The situation to which I refer is one where you are either alone at home or with your family. The bell rings and you go to answer it. The criminal knows every trick or technique to get you to open the door.

Once you open it and let him inside you are finished! You will end up as a victim with your coins in his possession. So the key words are: Keep him out!

You may live in a private home, an apartment building, or in a condominium. You should have a peephole setup in your door. You need not open the door to listen to said person nor to reply back. You can get a microphone-speaker unit so that you can speak and listen without opening the door.

TV at your door

One place I visited in a condominium even had a close circuit TV setup for each unit. You could actually see the person clearly outside of your door.

The latest ruse to get a coin collector to open the door is to ring the doorbell and use the following story: "I just hit the side of your car. I am sorry and it was my fault, so I will give you my name and insurance card."

You have to admit the normal reaction would be to open the door. Why not reply: "Certainly, as soon as



I call the police and tell them about the accident. You know that is required by law. In the meantime slip the insurance card and your name under the door. I will return it as soon as I make a copy."

There may be some mumbling and the party vanishes.

Another favorite gimmick is the following:

A man wearing a delivery outfit has a package in his hand. He says to you: "I have a package for your neighbor who is out. Will you be so kind as to take the package and sign the receipt."

You answer may be either of the two: "You can leave it with the superintendent who is in apartment 1 D." or, "Leave the package outside of my door at your own risk. I sign nothing."

So he vanishes and later in the day you can check with the superintendent to see if a package was left there. Want to bet it wasn't?

One trick is for a man to ring your bell and say: "I need help. My wife fainted in my car and I can't get her out of it. I have to call my doctor and the hospital."

Your answer: "Just give your name and the phone numbers. I will call for you. Go back to your wife."

When he leaves, look out of the window and see if he enters a car. He may drive away. Call up the number for the doctor. But it can be a phony. So call the police and tell them about it.

Ask for I.D. Cards

Now notice I said the number was a phony. It was to a bar where his pal was waiting for you to call. See how you would react to this situation:

Your doorbell rings and you take a look through the peephole. There is a man with a phone around his waist.

"Phone company. There's a hum on the lines. I just want to check

your phone. It will take only a minute."

Would you think of asking him to hold up an I.D. card? That could be a phony. It is sad but true; all identification cards can be duplicated, forged or even stolen.

Your response: "I will call up phone repairs and see if everything is o.k. Now I want to be certain of your name, so please repeat it carefully. And I want to be able to describe you to your superior. So that means I must know his name."

This line of action notified him how smart a person you are. If he is legitimate, he will wait. Otherwise he will vanish with some kind of mumbled excuse you can't hear.

The "Exterminator Man"

My favorite one is the "exterminator man." This con is used in apartment houses. He rings your doorbell. You see a man with a can in his hand who says he is checking all apartments. Don't let him in until you check with the agent or the superintendent of the building.

There is one trick that goes to every person's heart. A woman rings the doorbell with a little girl with her. Her story is tops: "Please, my little girl has to use the bathroom. Can you please help me?" Which you do—to your regret.

There are a variety of "inspectors" who will ring your doorbell, from fake fire inspectors to fake housing inspectors. Always remember, if they insist they have a right to come in, your answer: "First I call the police department. And when the office comes, then you may enter, if he says you are o.k."

You can talk loud enough so you can be heard on the other side of the door. You can get a strong door chain, but that means you open the door partly. I'm against it. Just keep the door closed. Thus you protect yourself and your coin collection. ❧

JUST AN OLD COIN

by D. Bernard Hoenig

"Only twenty shekalim," the owner of the shop said with a British accent that reminded one of Abba Eban.

He held the Palestinian coin around the rim, between thumb and forefinger with the care of a knowledgeable numismatist. Then, with a mocking smile, he irreverently flipped it over to me. The 1927 One Mil piece was nicked, stained and scratched.

I had discovered it in one of the many cigar boxes that lined the shelves of the dusty little antiquities stall on Tel Aviv's HaYarkon Street. I wondered aloud how long it might have been there.

"About forty years," the proprietor said, squinting as if in deep thought. "That's just about when my father first opened this shop. A long time, eh? A long time . . ."

Having been nurtured on a numismatic diet of proofs and uncs, I sighed and returned the bronze coin to its perch.

"Do you have anything in better condition?"

"Not here," the shopkeeper answered. "This is an antique shop. Everything is tarnished."

Studying the weather-beaten proprietor, I couldn't agree more. He leveled off at about 6'3"—that is, when he found space in which to stand erect. His khaki Bermudas and



"... circulated through the market place in good times and bad . . ."

knee socks somehow appropriately matched the store's own decor. I was convinced that he was a deserter from Britain's Mandate forces.

I turned to leave, thanking him for his time. "You'll pardon me," he called. "You're not a coin collector, are you?"

"I sure am," I retorted, thinking of the beautiful commemoratives I had accumulated in America during the past ten years. "All the commemoratives. Independence Day, Chanukah, Pidyon Habens . . ."

"Medals?"

"A few."

"Nice, nice. I've got several myself. Works of art those things."

I nodded in agreement. Then, reaching into the box I had set aside, the owner fished out a few assorted coins. I quickly assessed them at being in fair to fine condition.



Palestine 1927 1-mil piece

"I'll wager you don't have any of these," he stated.

"I don't think so," I laughed. "They're just about worthless. Just a bunch of old coins."

"Worthless?" he roared, half-falling onto a rickety stool. "Just old coins? I was right. You're not a collector."

"Hey, wait a minute," I reacted angrily. "Just because I don't believe in . . ."

"These worthless objects, as you call them," he interrupted, "probably have more value than all of the B.U.s in your collection. I say, these are part of the heritage of Israel. They've lived among the people, circulated in the marketplace and been through the good times and bad times of our country. Oh, they're soiled and scratched, to be sure, but only with the sands of history.

"Take this '67 Lira, for example. Undoubtedly it saw service in the Six Day War—or at least was around when it was all happening. Or this Palestinian piece, the one you rejected. Let's see . . . 1927, right? Pre-World War, Mandate period, the early years of the Haganah. Ah, what tales it could tell. That's what most of you people fail to recognize, you know what I mean?

"There's a great deal of romance to the circulated coin," he said a bit more calmly. "Adventure, experience. No proof from the mint can boast of that, however beautiful it may be. Mind you, I don't say not to cherish the proof and the unc; they're magnificent collectibles, to be sure. Just don't turn your back on these, the real things, as you Americans say."

With that he lapsed into silence, his shoulders sagging, his long legs outstretched against the counter. He looked exhausted, like a prizefighter after the last round. I was relieved this his tirade had ended.

I took the One Mil coin from his hand and intensely studied its reddish-brown surface. Mechanically, I noted: nicks at nine and two o'clock; a dark stain near the date; fairly sharp olive branches and legends. As my eyes rested on the tiny *Aleph* and *Yud*, I recalled the fascinating story behind those letters; how the Palestinian Jews begged Britain to engrave *Eretz Yisrael* on the Mandate coins and how the authorities instead chose to appease the Arabs. *Palestine*, they ruled, would be spelled in full. But the *Land of Israel* would be relegated to obscurity with initials only.

The Romance

It was then that I began to understand what the proprietor had been saying. *Romance*—isn't that what he had called it? *The Romance of the circulated coin*. I peered into the crevices of the Mil. Suddenly I could see images of Palestine in those times. Sand dunes in Tel Aviv. Horsedrawn carriages on Haifa's hills. The narrow alley of the *Wailing Wall*. Worshippers strolling towards *Hurva Synagogue*.

"Amazing," I whispered. "Absolutely amazing."

"What's that?" the storekeeper asked.

"Like you said. The things that one can see from a little coin. It's unbelievable."

He bent over the coin in my hand, scratched at his chin and then shrugged. "I don't see anything."

"You're kidding," I said.

"No, sir."

"You're putting me on."

"No, sir."

I looked at the coin again, then back at the man.

"Twenty Shekalim, right?" I said.

"You can have it for Ten," he said. And then, with a twinkle in his eyes, he added: "After all, it's just an old coin."





A MEDAL OF AHARON (ADOLF) JELINECK

by Eli Semmelman, Haifa.

Adolf Jelineck was born in Drslavice (Moravia) in 1820. He was a rabbi and preacher, in the spirit of moderate reform who was also an investigator of the Midrash, Jewish philosophy and Kabbalah.

In his youth he studied in a Yeshivah in Prosnitz (Moravia). The foundation of his education he acquired by himself. In 1838, after he moved to Prague (Czechoslovakia), he heard the preachings of Sacksch and lectures by Rapaport by whom he was deeply influenced. In 1842 he moved to Leipzig (Germany) where he registered as a student in the new university, where he studied philosophy and Semitic languages.

In 1845 he was invited to preach in a small synagogue of the new Leipzig community which was managed in the spirit of modern reform. In 1856 he was ordained as preacher in Vienna (Austria) and in 1865 as Rabbi of the Great Synagogue where he served till his death.

Jelineck became famous as the greatest Jewish preacher in Central Europe in the 19th century.

He never used the title "Rabbi", calling himself "preacher" (*prediger*), though he received the title of Chief Rabbi in 1892. His preaching was a song of praise on Judaism satu-

rated with Jewish pride. In 1862 he was active in founding the "Beit Hamidrash" College in Vienna in which he taught Homicetic Interpretation of the Holy Scriptures. His scientific activity was very broad and variegated. In 1844 he translated the book of A. Franck which was written in French, "La Kabbalah", to German and in 1852 he wrote "Investigations in the History of the Kabbalah". He proved scientifically that Moshe de Leon wrote the Kabbalah Book of the Zohar.

Against Radical Reform

He devoted himself to Jewish philosophy, and comments on the Jewish Middle Ages. He issued ten pamphlets in the years 1844-1877 dealing with the Bible, Talmud, Divorce, Jewish legends, the Rambam, cities of Worms and Vienna and of cities of the Middle Ages in Germany inhabited by Jews.

He was against radical religious reform. With all his might he fought against dispersal of the community when unity was in danger.

In his private life he did not keep the Jewish commandments and he was indifferent to the principal side either of the Orthodox or the Reform-

(cont. on page 28)

ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN GOLD MEDAL ISSUED BY ISRAEL MAXIMUM MINTAGE OF 1500



A rare and unique gold medal commemorating the memory of the greatest pianist of our times, the recently deceased Arthur Rubinstein has been announced by the IGCAM.

Rubinstein's agreement to an International Piano Master Competition in his name in Jerusalem was a most important contribution to cultural life in Israel.

The medal constitutes a rare combination of two fields of art: the music of Rubinstein and the pictorial art of Picasso.

The obverse of the medal depicts a signed portrait of Arthur Rubinstein by Pablo Picasso. The signature of the Maestro himself, Arthur Rubinstein, appears on the edge of the medal. If the artistry and symbolism of the medal are extraordinary, so too are its other details. It is one of the heaviest, largest-diameter medals ever to be minted by Israel in gold 916.6 (22 carats). The maximum quantity is limited to only 1500 medals. Few Israel State gold Medals have been issued in such small quantities.

This medal, in bronze and silver, was made available following the 2nd and 3rd International Piano Master Competitions. This is the first gold issue with the musician's signature in a limited quantity.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MEDAL

Obverse: Signed portrait of Arthur Rubinstein by Pablo Picasso.

Reverse: The words: "2nd Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition, Jerusalem 1977" in Hebrew and in English, and the emblem of the State of Israel.

Edge: Rubinstein's signature, the emblem of the State of Israel, the words: "State of Israel" in Hebrew and in English, G916.6 (gold content) and the serial number.

Details of the Medal

Metal: Gold 916.6/Diameter: 35mm/Weight: 30 grams

The medal is presented in an attractive olivewood box.

Design: **Reverse** — Nelu Wolfensohn, Jaakov Enyedi; **Obverse** — drawing by Picasso.

Engraving: Moshe Nov, Jerusalem

Minting: Government Mint, Jerusalem

ISRAEL STRIKES A MEDAL WITH A KINETIC SCULPTURE DESIGN BY AGAM HONORING RISHON LE ZION



Yaakov Agam, the world famous artist, has designed an exquisite medal featuring the centenary of his hometown in Israel, Rishon Le Zion. One of the first six farming communities in modern Israel, it was founded in 1882.

Its centenary commemorates the first settlers who contributed to the forging of the State of Israel. The nation's blue and white flag was first hoisted during the third anniversary celebrations, and only later became Israel's national flag. The Israeli national anthem, *HaTikva*, composed by a native of Rishon Le Zion, was first sung there. In 1889, in the shade of the old sycamore tree in Rishon Le Zion, the Jewish National Fund was

created. And it was there that the first wine cellar was established by the Baron de Rothschild.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MEDAL

Obverse: Rishon Le Zion's central synagogue and the words "Rishon Le Zion 5642 - 1882" in Hebrew and in English.

Reverse: A cluster of grapes against a Star of David, a kinetic sculpture design by Yaakov Agam, the form of which changes according to the angle of view. Agam's signature in Hebrew and in English, within a Star of David formed by the Hebrew letter "Aleph" (Agam's Hebrew initial) and the English letter "A".

Edge: The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation emblem and Hebrew initials, and the serial number.

Design: Yaakov Agam

Engraving: Victor Huster

Minting: Mosche Hecht

DETAILS OF THE MEDAL

Bronze; Diameter 59mm; Weight 945 grams.

Jelineck (cont. from page 26)

ers; the fanaticism of both sides were strange to him.

What brought him to real exultation was his attachment to the Jewish people which he expressed in his essay, "The Jewish Race" though he opposed all Jewish National movements.

His son was the inventor of today's Mercedes-Benz, first called the Mercedes after his sister.

Jelineck died in Vienna in 1893.

The medal is in bronze, issued in 1893 on Jelineck's death, minted by V. Christlbauer. The medal is 55 mm in diameter, and weighs 73 grams.

Material was taken from the *Hebrew Encyclopedia*.

MAKING COIN PHOTOGRAPHS AN EASIER WAY

by George Gilbert, LM 60

My friend David Hendin advises that Hasmonean coins carried inscriptions in ancient Hebrew script, sometimes accompanied by Greek on the other side of the coin. Some coins of Jannaeus also carry Aramaic inscriptions. (*The Shekel*, Vol. 9, No. 3, p. 19.)

Imagine the dilemma of trying to tell someone about one of these coins and not being able to explain these 2000-year old specimens despite the indecipherable calligraphy of their ancient languages.

Discussing modern Israeli coinage may be just as confounding. The 25 mils Israeli coin of 1949 has a variation which is best described as "open link" and "closed link" involving the size of tiny berries and their juxtaposition in relation to links on the reverse. (Kagan, 1974, p.11.) How can you best explain or show this to a distant collector without sending the coin itself?

The answer lies in the now relatively simple procedures available for excellent coin photography.

13.5 Million SLR Cameras

Since 1970, according to a survey made by the author for a recent photo industry presentation, over 13.5 million cameras of the single lens reflex classification (SLR) have been sold in the United States. These were purchased primarily by middle class males of the education and income demographically inclusive of stamp and coin collectors. A large number of AINA members are owners of the Canon, Pentax, Minolta, Nikon, Olympus, Konica and other cameras which permit viewing through the lens when aiming and focusing.

Without exception, the lenses sold with these cameras, the so-called "normal" lens, does not focus closer than 18 inches to 24 inches. At such distances, the denarius is something so small that about 350 to 400 of them can be photographed on the film at the same instant. Want a simpler way to understand how big the field is at two feet? Imagine four picture postcards contained in the photograph made from a two-foot height.



WORLD'S CLOSEST
AUTOFOCUSING CAMERA . . .
THE POLAROID AUTOFOCUS CAMERA

The world's finest instant camera—Polaroid's Time-Zero SX-70 Autofocus—offers photographers the versatility of single-lens reflex viewing and a precise lens that focuses itself *automatically from 10.4 inches to infinity*.

Obviously, for details of Aramaic lettering or of berries on the reverse of the 25 mils coin, it will be necessary to move the camera in closer. But the camera lens can't be set closer than two feet. What to do?

At the camera store, the man behind the camera can suggest four or five ways to make that coin bigger in the frame.

1. *Close-up bellows.* He can show you how to put a bellows system between your lens and the camera. Now your present lens can be brought in closer to the coin. Many photographers are happy to set up the tripod to support the bellows system. Simple rings of metal are sometimes substituted for the leather bellows. The cost will be from \$35.00 to \$100.00.

2. *Macro lens.* Your dealer will show you a lens specifically made to permit right-up-close photography without bellows or rings. The macro lens at \$100 to \$200 is a good way to get dependable results. The camera can be hand-held without a tripod for occasional quick photographs by sunlight or windowsill light.

3. *Close-up attachment lens.* This is a special accessory lens unit affixed to the front of a "normal" lens to permit close-up photography. Depending on the maker, it can cost from \$25 to \$50; it fits onto the camera as easily as a sunshade. For years many photographs appearing in *The Shekel* were taken with a Pentax, a normal lens and a Tiffen Variable Close-up Attachment. This is adjustable so that coins may be large or small and you can move to or away from the coin to accommodate the coin size to the size (magnification) desired.

4. *Macro-zoom lenses.* The new zoom tele lenses are now all the rage in photographic circles. Why buy a wide-angle lens, a portrait lens, a short-tele lens and a medium-long

telephoto lens when for the cost of a pair of lenses you can own all? The zoom lenses sell from \$100 to \$400; some of them are promoted as being "macro" lenses.

Macro-Zoom Lenses

The only macro zoom lenses which should be considered are those where the magnification reproduction ratio is 1:1 or 1:2. That means that a coin 12mm in diameter can be photographed at 12mm in diameter onto the film (1:1) or at least a 6mm in diameter (or 1:2) which is half-size.

Some of the so-called "macro-zoom" lenses offered today are great values for tele uses but their 1:4, 1:5 and even 1:6 reproduction ratios are practically useless for coin or stamp photography.

It's easy to prevent being stuck with one of these not-so-macro lenses for your Canon, Minolta, Pentax, etc. The important ratio scale is built onto some of these lenses for all the world to see. Turning the macro setting dial reveals the ratio changes in tiny numerals on the barrel of the



SINGLE LENS REFLEX TYPE

Cameras that see thru the lens are the single lens reflex types (SLR) which the author describes in this article.

lens. If the zoom lens system does not have this ratio indicator, ask the dealer to check for that data in his product catalog book.

If he says that he can't find the book, there's a hands-on demonstration at his counter to perform. Put a penny on the counter; and ask him to make it as large as he can in the camera's finder. Then you look through the finder. If you can center the penny and still find room for two pennies or more alongside, you've got a 1:3 or 1:4 ratio lens. Tell him "no thank you" for that particular zoom model.

It gets more complicated. On some zoom lenses, the macro capability at the short focal length may be greater than for the long focal length. Make sure you conduct the test at the widest-angle setting, not at the maximum tele setting.

With automatic exposure cameras now commonly available today from

all of the major manufacturers, the difficult problem of proper exposure no longer hinders easy close-up photography. Light drifting in from any window is more than adequate for color slides. Place the coins to be photographed on light or dark-colored cloth-bound books as your stage. At night, a small high intensity lamp can provide all the light you need. Forget about color balance; it's coin detail you require, not matched color accuracy.

Slides of your coins and medals are the basis for a dramatic presentation on your screen of the most interesting coins in your collection. Photographs of a dime made at 1:1 will be 30 inches high on a 40-inch screen. At that magnification, I promise that even if the inscription is in ancient Hebrew, Greek or Aramaic, you'll be so excited you'll be able to read it all as easy as aleph-beth-gimmel.



Minset *(cont. from page 11)*

The Corporation's profits and the royalties paid to the State Treasury are earmarked for the improvement of the landscape of Israel, the establishment and preservation of national parks and gardens, the excavation

of antiquities and for nature conservation in Israel.

The set is attractively mounted on a colored cardboard stand, with a transparent window for convenient storage and display. Its price is \$11.00.



Valor Coin *(cont. from page 12)*

a. It guarantees the existence of the State of Israel, taking deterrent action when Israel's sovereignty or citizens are threatened by enemy aggression.

b. It defends the State of Israel against enemy armies in war. Since 1948 the IDF has fought the War of Independence, the Sinai Campaign, the Six-Day War, the War of Attrition, the Yom Kippur War, and the "Peace for Galilee" War.

c. Protected by the IDF's scrupulous and rapid execution of security missions, Israel's citizens lead regular,

productive and creative lives.

d. The IDF plays an important national role in settlement, immigration and absorption, immigrant integration, promotion of national awareness, and education and professional training of youths from underprivileged backgrounds. The IDF is a pioneer and forerunner in the field of volunteer work.

Profits from the sale of these coins are earmarked for the improvement of Israel's landscapes, establishment and preservation of her national parks and reserves and excavation of antiquities.



ELECTIONS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS; NEW MEMBERS SEATED

Elections conducted by mail during the months of March and April saw balloting which re-seated a number of present Board members and added a new face to the Board, Jerry Yahalom of California.

The following were elected for three-year terms:

Morris Bram
Nat Sobel
J.J. Van Grover
Mel Wacks
Julius Turoff
Jerry Yahalom

Following announcement of the election results to the Board of Directors which met on Friday, April 29, 1983 during the Greater New York Coin Convention at the Convention of American Israel Numismatic Association, the following officers were elected by Board voting:

**Morris Bram—President and
Chairman of the Board**
Stanley Yulish—Executive Vice President
Irving L. Rudin—2nd Vice President
Julius Turoff—Secretary and Treasurer

Mr. Yahalom and Mr. Turoff also serve as Regional Directors in addition to full membership as Board members.

The effect of the election was to replace David Hendin of New York, adding strength to the West Coast on Board matters.

Mr. Sidney L. Olson has relinquished the post of Treasurer to Julius Turoff.

An Executive Committee to assist the President was announced with Stanley Yulish, Arnold Kagan, Sidney L. Olson and Ed Schuman as members.

The 1983 Annual Meeting of the Board heard treasury and budget reports, conducted Board elections, reviewed a number of ongoing projects, authorized a new Membership Committee to be chaired by Stanley Yulish and learned of planned growth of the clubs with a new club in the Southwest to be formed this Fall.

BY-LAWS PASSED BY BOARD

The American Israel Numismatic Association, Inc. is a chartered, not-for-profit corporation of the State of New York. After a two-year review by a committee led by Board Member Ed Janis and attorney Board Member Irving L. Rudin, a number of changes have been recommended and approved to bring the By-Laws of the corporation into conformity with current New York State Laws.

The 20-page document has sections dealing with purposes, organization, and other technical aspects of the conduct of AINA affairs. Officers, size of Board, election rules, and similar themes dominate the rules of the organization.

Any member requesting a copy of the newly approved By-Laws may write to AINA, Inc., P.O. Box 25790, Tamarac, FL 33320.

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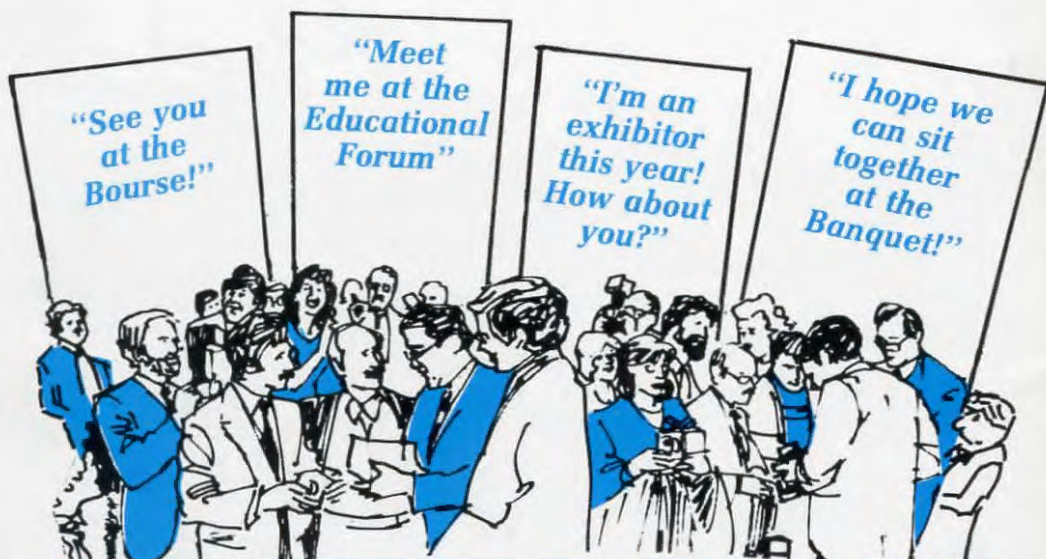
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